

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

Case No. 23-80101-CR-AMC

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
)
GOVERNMENT,)
)
-v-)
)
WALTINE NAUTA,)
)
DEFENDANT.) Miami, Florida
) July 6, 2023
)

TRANSCRIPT OF REPORT RE: COUNSEL AND ARRAIGNMENT

PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE HONORABLE EDWIN G. TORRES

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Appearances:

(On Page 2.)

Proceedings recorded by Digital Audio Recording, and transcript prepared utilizing computer-aided transcription.

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United States Court Reporter
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1 Appearances:

2 FOR THE GOVERNMENT

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-and-

David Harbach, ESQ.
U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Special Counsel
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest
Washington, DC 20530

-and-

Michael Thakur, ESQ.
U.S. Attorney's Office
Southern District of Florida
99 Northeast 4th Street
Miami, FL 33132

FOR THE DEFENDANT

Stanley E. Woodward, ESQ.
Brand Woodward Law, L.P.
400 Fifth Street, Northwest
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-and-

Sasha Dadan, ESQ.
SafeSpace
P.O. Box 7321
Port St. Lucie, FL 34985

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2 (Call to the order of the Court at 11:01 a.m.)

3 THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: Calling case United States
4 versus Waltine Nauta, Case Number 23-80101-CRIMINAL, Judge
5 Cannon.

6 Counsel, your appearances for the record.

7 MR. BRATT: Good morning, Your Honor. Jay Bratt and
8 David Harbach and Michael Thakur from the Special Counsel's
9 office on behalf of the United States.

10 THE COURT: Good morning.

11 MR. WOODWARD: Good morning, Your Honor. Stanley
12 Woodward on behalf of Mr. Nauta, who is also present, and I'm
13 pleased to introduce to the Court Sasha Dadan.

14 MS. DADAN: Good morning.

15 THE COURT: Good morning. I'm very glad to see you
16 here.

17 MS. DADAN: Thank you.

18 THE COURT: Good morning, everybody. This is a
19 continuation of the arraignment from last week. I should note
20 for the record that the matter was set before the duty judge
21 but the duty judge was going to recuse, so therefore I took it
22 back. That's the reason I'm handling this in my role as
23 chief.

24 We were set for report re: counsel and arraignment.

25 Mr. Woodward, in terms of counsel, let me let you

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1 announce on the record what you've learned in the interim
2 period.

3 MR. WOODWARD: Yes, Your Honor.

4 Ms. Dadan entered an appearance in this case this
5 morning, and she also filed a motion for pro hac vice on my
6 behalf. So we are prepared to proceed with the arraignment.
7 I'm not sure that the Court has ruled on the motion for pro
8 hac vice, and so not wanting to overstep here, but either way
9 we're prepared to proceed with the arraignment, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Very well. For purposes of today, you
11 can make the appearance for Mr. Nauta. I'll let Judge Cannon
12 rule on the motion --

13 MR. WOODWARD: Yes, sir.

14 THE COURT: -- technically. She may want to do
15 that, but obviously if you wish to proceed with the
16 arraignment now that counsel is present. I understand there
17 was a registration issue. Has that been cured?

18 MR. WOODWARD: No, I don't believe so, Your Honor.
19 I think it's just a timing, question of timing.

20 THE COURT: Okay. Well, because there are pending
21 proceedings that I think Judge Cannon is waiting on, I'm going
22 to issue an order that directs the clerk to accept any ECF
23 filing from Ms. Dadan immediately, and with an expiration
24 period of 14 days, and then that way anything that she needs
25 to do to update her registration, they can be done without

1 interfering with the process before Judge Cannon in the
2 interim period.

3 MR. WOODWARD: Thank you, Your Honor. We appreciate
4 that.

5 THE COURT: Okay. All right. With that, then,
6 anything the government needs to add before I proceed with the
7 arraignment?

8 MR. BRATT: No, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Okay. Very well. We're ready to
10 proceed, then, with the arraignment for Mr. Nauta.

11 Mr. Nauta, have you had a full opportunity to review
12 the indictment filed against you and review your case with
13 counsel?

14 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Very well.

16 MR. WOODWARD: Your Honor, we would waive formal
17 reading of the indictment and ask to enter a plea of not
18 guilty as to all counts, and of course we'll reserve all
19 rights. We also would request a jury trial.

20 THE COURT: Very well. I should have also asked
21 counsel, both counsel, are you making an appearance only
22 through trial in the case, Mr. Woodward?

23 MR. WOODWARD: Yes, Your Honor, at this time.

24 THE COURT: Ms. Dadan?

25 MS. DADAN: Yes.

1 THE COURT: All right. Very well. Mr. Nauta, you
2 understand your lawyers are appearing on your behalf only
3 through trial, which means if it were necessary for you to
4 obtain the services of an appellate lawyer, those services
5 will have to be retained separately. Do you understand that,
6 Mr. Nauta?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

14 So the arraignment is complete. Anything further
15 that we need to do for Mr. Nauta?

16 MR. WOODWARD: Not for defense counsel, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Okay. On behalf of the government?

18 MR. BRATT: Not for the government, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: I'll go ahead and issue that ECF order
20 for today, and then the matter will be referred to Judge
21 Cannon for disposition.

22 MR. WOODWARD: Thank you, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Thank you for your appearance.

24 (Proceedings concluded.)

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2 I N D E X

3 Report Re: Counsel and Arraignment 3

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5 E X H I B I T S

6 (None.)

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8 CERTIFICATE

9 I, Stephen W. Franklin, Registered Merit Reporter, and
10 Certified Realtime Reporter, certify that the foregoing is a
11 correct transcript, to the best of my ability, from the
12 DIGITAL AUDIO RECORDING of proceedings in the above-entitled
13 matter.

14 Dated this 11th day of JULY, 2023.

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16 /s/Stephen W. Franklin

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